Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota land managers are good stewards of public and private lands throughout the state. The benefits of good land stewardship include the production of food and fiber, scenic vistas, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, psychological well-being of citizens, and enhanced economic and environmental benefits; and,

Whereas, Non-native plant species known as noxious weeds threaten the ecological integrity and biodiversity of South Dakota's lands. South Dakota regularly deals with the presence of unwanted noxious weeds, that by their invasive nature pose a genuine danger to the well-being of the state; and,

Whereas, Coordination among federal and state agencies, counties, cities, weed management areas, and recreational groups, is essential to achieve maximum efficiency and avoid duplication effort; and,

Whereas, Infestations of noxious weeds result in significant decrease in biodiversity with the invasion of habitat by noxious weeds as one of the primary reasons cited for endangerment of threatened and endangered species; and,

Whereas, Noxious weeds infest 3,684,254 acres of South Dakota's pastures, cropland, and wild areas; every infested acre means lost revenue and additional costs, and reduces real property values; and,

Whereas, Understanding negative impacts will encourage and enhance proper stewardship of the land. Budgets are being stretched and control efforts are curtailed because of the economic restrictions; and,

Whereas, Without the continuing support of our citizens, we will lose the use and enjoyment of lands of our state:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2011, as

NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State